

551 Blue Spruce Road
Alpine, UT 84004

January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am thoroughly disgusted with the outright refusal of half of the plaintiff states in the Microsoft antitrust case to accept the settlement. It has not only had a negative impact on the economy and impeded the progress of the technology industry, but it has also cost the parties involved a great deal of time and money. I cannot imagine how Utah plans to finance additional litigation against Microsoft. Not only that, but it appears that the only reason that these nine states are pursuing litigation against Microsoft is because the plaintiff states in the big tobacco suit were able to make such a profit off of their lawsuit.

The settlement, is, I believe, a little too heavy-handed with Microsoft. Microsoft has done its best to wrap up the case as speedily as possible, and I believe that is in the best interest of all parties involved to settle. The terms agreed upon are sufficient to prevent further antitrust violations. For example, Microsoft has agreed not to enter into any contracts that would require a third party either to sell or distribute Microsoft products at a fixed percentage. The agreement also allows for a leveling of the playing field in the technology market. Microsoft's competitors, for instance, will be allowed to introduce their software into Windows, and Microsoft has agreed to reformat the Windows operating system to this end.

I do not believe it is necessary for Microsoft to be held further accountable in the antitrust suit. No additional action needs to be pursued on the federal level. This has gone on for long enough, and, frankly, I think it's starting to do more harm than good. I urge you to support the settlement.

cc: Representative Chris Cannon

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan Larsen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nathan Larsen